February 18, 1958

Dr. P. Fredericq
Institut de Bacteriologie
Universite de Liege
1, Rue de Bonnes Villas
Liege, Belgium

Dear Professor Fredericq:

Thank you very much for the phage B-23, which has met our expectations as a useful tool. Our work is going very smoothly now, and I have succeeded in transfering colicin E to a number of other stocks for the main experiments to be done soon. My impression is that the colicin is transferred somewhat less readily, in quantity concerned, than is the S factor. A closer examination is needed.

I feel that I should tell you that the culture TR-27 is mixed. It contains both a $Gal^+ S^S$ and a $Gal^- S^R$ component. I think the same accounts for my previous report on it, in which there were more of the S^S cells. May I burden you with one more request? I have already looked at a few Salmonella strains to find one which would produce a colicin active against E. coli. So far this search has failed. I am anticipating some future experiments where I may be interested to study the transfer of colicin between Salmonella and E. coli. Since you will be out of your laboratory later this year, could I ask you for such a culture now?

I am looking forward to seeing you later this spring.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew

P.S. I have meant to ask you one other question for some weeks. In several papers you mention your technique of testing for colicin production by (1) seeding a plate with a colicin-producer (2) sterilizing this after growth by chloroform vapor and (3) adding a uniform lawn of colicin sensitive bacteria. Can you tell me in more detail just how <u>you</u> accomplish steps 2 and 3, especially ~~#~~ step 2? Is it in a vacuum desiccator or other chamber? How efficient is it?